

March 23, 2011

Dear Senator Toni Harp,

My name is Shirley Reep, and I am a junior in the Mechanics agriscience program in killingly. I live in Danielson, and I attend this regional agriscience school choice program because, I wanted the opportunity to learn about Agricultural Mechanics, and to meet great friends. I'm from New Hampshire and when I moved here from New Hampshire I was happy to learn about the program. I didn't know anyone from here, and by joining ag-ed I met so many people who are life long friends. I chose mechanics because I wanted to prove my father wrong, and that I can do a job at mechanics better than any men in my family. By being in ag-ed I have to have an SAE- a supervised agricultural experience, which is where I learn how to make and manage money plus I also learn respect, and responsibility I plan on graduating next year, and going to Lincoln Tech. in east Windsor for a few years, to be a certified mechanic in all areas. By being in mechanics I get the ability to be mechanically inclined and I can work with my hands. I love mechanics, it's a great program.

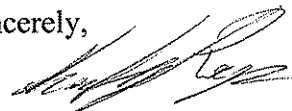
I am writing this letter to encourage you to please urge the Appropriations Committee to pledge 9 million dollars of the school choice funding increases proposed in the Governor's budget to the state's 19 regional agriscience programs.

Our agriscience programs have been drastically under funded for over 20 years as compared to the magnet schools, charter schools, vocational technical schools and the other school choice funding programs.

This will allow hundreds of more students like me to enroll in these successful programs so they will have the say positive experience I am having now.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shirley Reep', written in a cursive style.

Shirley Reep